

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

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AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USNMR SHAPE

USDOCOSOUTH

S E C R E T USNATO 0702

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, TU

SUBJ: TURKISH STATEMENT ON US MILITARY AID CUTOFF; DPC MEETING  
FEBRUARY 10

REF: USNATO 0668

1. UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS AGENDA ITEM OF FEBRUARY 10 DPC (REFTEL),  
AMBASSADOR ERALP (TURKEY) ADVISED THAT HE WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS  
TO MAKE A STATEMENT "OF A RATHER IMPORTANT NATURE." HE THEN DELIVERED  
THE FOLLOWING:

BEGIN TEXT

1. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE ENTRY INTO EFFECT OF THE LEGISLA-  
TION OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS INTENDED TO BRING PRESSURE  
UPON TURKEY IN CONNECTION WITH HER CYPRUS POLICY IS LIABLE  
TO BRING ABOUT CONSEQUENCES WHICH HAVE NO RELATION TO THE  
PURPOSE OF SUCH LEGISLATION.

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2. THE PURPOSE OF TURKEY'S CYPRUS POLICY IS TO PROVIDE FOR  
THE TURKISH COMMUNITY IN CYPRUS CONDITIONS OF SECURITY,  
WITHIN AND INDEPENDENT STATE, CALCULATED TO PREVENT THE  
RECURRENCE OF PAST SUFFERINGS.

3. THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS HAVING FIRST SET DEADLINES FOR THE CESSATION OF AID, THUS CAUSING INSTABILITY IN THE FLOW OF AID THROUGH A SORT OF BONDS OF EARLY MATURITY HAS NOW EFFECTIVELY STOPPED ALL AID. THE ONLY EFFECT OF SUCH ACTION ON THE QUESTION OF CYPRUS HAS BEEN TO GIVE GROUNDLESS HOPES TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS, WHO AT FIRST SEEMED TO HAVE A REALISTIC APPROACH, DRIVING THEM TO INTRANSIGENCE, AND TO IMPEDE THE PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATIONS INTENDED TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM.

4. AT A TIME WHEN THE IMPORTANCE OF CONVENTIONAL STRENGTH IS GROWING IN TERMS OF STRATEGY, THE REAL EFFECT OF SUCH LEGISLATION HAS BEEN TO WEAKEN A LOYAL MEMBER OF THE ALLIANCE, WHO IS ALREADY IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE. THIS MUST BE A GRATIFYING SIGHT FOR THE POTENTIAL ADVERSARY. IT SHOULD BE STRESSED THAT PUTTING TURKEY IN SUCH A POSITION WITHIN AN AREA PATENTLY LACKING IN ARMS AND EQUIPMENT IS LIABLE TO INCREASE THE THREAT ON THE SOUTHERN FLANK.

5. TURKEY IN BRINGING HER DEFENCE CONTRIBUTION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ALLIANCE THROUGH BILATERAL DEFENCE COOPERATION HAS ACTED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT MILITARY AID WOULD BE FORTHCOMING. TODAY, NOT ONLY HAS SUCH AID BEEN STOPPED BUT IT HAS BEEN MADE IMPOSSIBLE FOR TURKEY, BY AN EMBARGO, TO PROCURE ARMS FROM ANOTHER ALLY BY HER OWN FINANCIAL RESOURCES.

6. ON ACCOUNT OF SUCH ACTION, THE POSSIBILITIES OF TURKEY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEFENCE OF THE ALLIANCE HAVE BEEN SEVERELY CURTAILED. THIS SITUATION IS A MATTER OF CONCERN NOT ONLY FOR TURKEY BUT TO THE ENTIRE ALLIANCE WHICH SHOULD BE CONSCIOUS OF THE WEAKENING OF THE DEFENCE POSTURE IN THE SOUTHERN REGION.

7. IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO LOOK INTO THE NATURE OF THE DECISION TO CEASE MILITARY AID. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE ACTION OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS IS NOT MERELY A DECISION TO STOP AID BUT ALSO AN ATTEMPT, THROUGH AN EMBARGO, TO DIVERT THE POLICY  
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OF AN ALLY ON A MATTER WHICH HAS NO CONNECTION WITH THE ALLIANCE, AND TO PUNISH THAT ALLY FOR NOT ALTERING ITS POLICY.

8. THE PREAMBLE TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY PROVIDES THAT THE ALLIES ARE RESOLVED TO UNITE THEIR EFFORTS FOR COLLECTIVE DEFENCE AND ARTICLE 3 STATES THAT THE ALLIES SHALL, SEPARATELY AND JOINTLY, BY MEANS OF CONTINUOUS AND EFFECTIVE SELF-HELP AND MUTUAL AID, DEVELOP THEIR INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE CAPACITY TO RESIST ARMED ATTACK. IN VIEW OF THESE PROVISIONS IT WOULD SEEM CONTRARY TO THE SPIRIT AND THE LETTER OF THE TREATY FOR ONE ALLY TO PLACE AN EMBARGO IN THE NATURE OF PUNISHMENT ON ANOTHER ALLY THUS WEAKENING ITS DEFENCE POSTURE. IT WOULD SEEM THAT THE ACTION OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS

TRENDS TO AFFECT THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES UNDER THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY. THE FACT THAT THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS FEELS FREE TO ADOPT A DECISION CONFLICTING WITH THE SOLEMN UNDERTAKINGS ENSHRINED IN THE TREATY THROWS DOUBT ON THE CONTINUED CREDIBILITY OF UNITED STATES TREATY OBLIGATIONS AND AS SUCH SHOULD BE A MATTER OF CONCERN TO THE ENTIRE ALLIANCE. FURTHERMORE, TURKEY AND UNITED STATES HAVE ENTERED INTO BILATERAL-AGREEMENTS WHICH RENDER MORE SPECIFIC THE COOPERATION ENVISAGED UNDER ARTICLE 3 OF THE TREATY AND WHICH CONTAIN ADDITIONAL OBLIGATIONS. IT IS A SERIOUS MATTER FOR THE LEGISLATURE OF A COUNTRY UNILATERALLY AND ARBITRARILY, TO AMEND, WEAKEN OR DISCARD OBLIGATIONS ASSUMED UNDER A TREATY DULY SIGNED AND RATIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THAT COUNTRY'S CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURES. SUCH ACTION COMING FROM THE LEGISLATURE OF A COUNTRY WHICH IS THE MAINSTAY OF ALLIANCE SECURITY, IS ALL THE MORE GRAVE.

9. MY AUTHORITIES WOULD WISH THE DPC TO TAKE STOCK OF THE SITUATION ARISING FROM THE ABOVE PROCEDURE AND TO TAKE ANY ACTION WHICH IT MIGHT DEEM POSSIBLE AND NECESSARY.  
END TEXT

2. SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS ASKED ERALP TO CLARIFY REFERENCE IN FIFTH PARAGRAPH TO "ANOTHER ALLY". ERALP REPLIED THAT IT REFERS TO TURKISH PURCHASES FROM US.

3. AMBASSADOR BRUSE (US) SAID TURKISH STATEMENT GAVE RISE TO A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS. HE STATED THAT ACTION OF US WAS  
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"NOT AN EMBARGO,BUT A CESSATION OF A PREVIOUS FLOW OF SUPPLIES." HE CONTINUED THAT HE DID NOT DESIRE TO DELIVER A HOMILY ON US CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESS, BUT THAT PRESIDENT AND SECSTATE HAVE PLACED A REQUEST FOR REVISION OF CONGRESSIONAL CUT-OFF BEFORE CONGRESS, AND THAT "IT WOULD BE VERY UNFORTUNATE IF THE DPC FELT ITSELF UNDER OBLIGATION TO DEBATE THE ISSUE AT THE PRESENT TIME." HE SAID HE HAD NO IDEA HOW REQUEST FOR REVISION WOULD FARE IN CONGRESS, BUT LIMITED HIMSELF TO HOPE THAT, IF NECESSARY, DPC COULD LOOK AT ISSUE AT A LATER DATE "NOT LONG POSTPONED." ERALP RESPONDED WITH A NOTE OF APPRECIATION AND ACCEPTED AMBASSADOR BRUCE'S SUGGESTION FOR POSTPONEMENT OF DPC DELIBERATION.

4. DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) THANKED ERALP FOR AGREEING TO DISTRIBUTE TEXT OF REMARKS, AND SUGGESTED THAT DPC KEEP MATTER COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL. ERALP REPLIED THAT TURKEY WILL MAKE PUBLIC ITS REQUEST FOR DPC TO ACT ON THIS MATTER ONLY IN A GERNERAL WAY. DE STAERCKE THEN PRAISED AMBASSADOR BRUCE FOR WISDOM OF HIS COMMENTS, AND SUGGESTED THAT DPC TAKE HIS ADVICE TO DELAY DPC CONSIDERATION, WHILE STAYING ABREAST OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE US.

5. LUNS EXPRESSED HOPE THAT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WOULD  
PRESAGE A SOLUTION TO CYPRUS SITUATION, AND STATED THAT  
IT IS USEFUL FOR DPC TO KNOW WHAT STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN.  
HE EXPRESSED WILL OF DPC TO NOTE TURKISH STATEMENT AND  
KEEP POSSIBLE DPC CONSIDERATION OF US MILITARY AID CUT-OFF  
CONFIDENTIAL.BRUC

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